

## NEWS RELEASE



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### For Immediate Release

## **Worthington Steel Earns John Deere Enterprise Supplier of the Year and “Partner-level Supplier” awards**

**COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 24, 2008** - Worthington Steel, a Worthington Industries company (NYSE:WOR), today announced that the company has been recognized by Deere & Company as a Partner-level supplier for 2007 and was also named a 2007 Enterprise Supplier of the Year in the John Deere Achieving Excellence Program. The Partner-level status is Deere & Company’s highest supplier rating.

“We are extremely proud to be recognized as one of seven John Deere suppliers to receive the Supplier of the Year award,” said Mark Russell, president, Worthington Steel. “The awards are a testament to our employees’ commitment to quality and service, as well as their dedication to continuous improvement.”

Worthington Steel is a supplier of hot-roll and cold-roll cut-to-length steel sheets to the John Deere Harvester Works in East Moline, Ill., and the John Deere Ottumwa Works in Ottumwa, Iowa, for combine, baler and mower conditioner parts. Suppliers who participate in Deere & Company’s Achieving Excellence program are evaluated annually in several key performance categories, including quality, cost management, delivery, technical support and wavelength, which is a measure of responsiveness. Worthington Steel employees accepted the recognition during formal ceremonies held at John Deere’s headquarters in Moline, Ill., and at an informal plant-wide celebration at Worthington Steel’s Porter, Ind., facility.

Worthington Steel, a Worthington Industries company, is one of America’s largest independent steel processors of flat-rolled steel. Operating 12 facilities across the United States, the company offers the widest range of services in the industry, including acrylic coating, cleaning, cold-rolling, configured blanking, cutting-to-length, dry lubricating, edging, galvannealing, hot-dipped galvanizing, hydrogen annealing, pickling, slitting, stainless steel, temper rolling and tension leveling.

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Worthington Industries, Inc.  
March 24, 2008  
Page 2

Worthington Industries is a leading diversified metal processing company with annual sales of approximately \$3 billion. The Columbus, Ohio, based company is North America's premier value-added steel processor and a leader in manufactured metal products such as metal framing, metal ceiling grid systems, pressure cylinders, automotive past model service stampings and laser welded blanks. Worthington Industries and its subsidiaries employ more than 8,000 people and operate 68 facilities in 10 countries.

**Safe Harbor Statement**

*The company wishes to take advantage of the Safe Harbor provisions included in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("the Act"). Statements by the company, which are not historical information, constitute "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the Act. All forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ from those projected. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include risks described from time to time in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.*

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**Editor's Note:**

A photo of the awards presentation is available upon request.

Photo cut line: Worthington Steel Porter employees surround a John Deere combine and accept Deere & Company's 2007 Enterprise Supplier of the Year award.